

THE AMERICAN DESERT.

Tree Planting in the West and How the Rain Belt Has Been Widened.

No Entire Failure of Crops in Nebraska and Kansas for Many Years.

Lack of Rain Overcome in Colorado and Kansas by Extensive Systems of Irrigation.

One of the Denver papers some time ago published the following item: "There has been no entire failure of crops in western Nebraska and Kansas since the big drought of 1880. During that time Iowa, Illinois and some eastern states have been parched more than once. The reason for this is found in a very general tree planting. This has been one of the annual labors of the settlers on the plains, and as a result the rain belt has been steadily extending further west with each succeeding year. Where once the sand hills were given up to the gopher and jack-rabbits, are now seen cozy farm houses, fields of growing grain and herds of cattle fattening for the eastern markets. The western progress of the rain limit—the imaginary boundary of the region within which falls sufficient rain to sustain vegetation and beyond which even cattle find scanty picking—has been so marked that it is almost possible to trace each year's march. Already three-fourths of the vast region has been covered, and another decade will have seen the last of the desert under cultivation.

The extent to which trees have been planted on the plains is easily observable along any of the railroads. Leaving Omaha or Kansas City, over the Union Pacific for Denver, one sees through the rolling country extending a half hundred or more miles back of the Missouri, the streets of the little towns lined with rows of shade trees and looking cool and inviting. Each farmhouse has its groves of cottonwood, maple or walnut trees hard by. The lanes about the house are lined with trees all around ten, twenty, or forty-acre lots. The western little stream or spring is made to furnish nourishment to other trees which line its banks. In places, acres upon acres of young trees are planted in long rows, traversed by ditches supplied with water from a neighboring stream, by the friendly aid of a windmill, or, where practicable, by a part of the stream itself turned aside. Further west the number of trees seen in less and less and finally there is nothing but a waste of barren land. Not a tree is in sight, not even a scrubby cottonwood, except right on the banks of the sandy streams.

Eastern Colorado and Western Kansas have overcome the lack of rain to a great extent, by systems of irrigation. Great ditches extending from away up among the mountains west of Denver convey water out over the plains, and wherever the system of irrigation extends the desert is made to blossom. The change from the desert to the irrigated district is even more striking here than when entering the rain belt, for in the latter the change comes gradually. Unfortunately the supply of water is limited, and barely sufficient to supply the districts already established, while there is a demand for water from a large outlying country. A movement is on foot to obtain congressional aid in establishing storage reservoirs. But with the rapid western movement of the rain belt and the increasing rainfall in the vicinity of the mountains, it is a question whether the expenditure of millions on irrigation for western Kansas and Nebraska would be a profitable investment. Still, it would open up hundreds of thousands of acres of land now unutilized. But between nature and irrigation it will not be long before the last vestige of the "Great American Desert" disappears, supplanted by a region of unsurpassed fertility.

LEAGUE OF THE PLAYERS.

The Association to be Permanently Organized the First of the Year.

New York, Nov. 8.—The Players National league is still in embryo. The meeting of the Brotherhood of Ball Players, which has been in session at the Fifth Avenue hotel since Monday, adjourned until Jan. 7, without a permanent organization of the new league, much to the surprise of all interested. The first thing was the adopting of a contract form. It was stated that the reserve clause had been eliminated and the term of service increased from one to three years. The contract was signed by players some time ago, underwent considerable change, the most important being that which provided a division of 50 per cent. of the gate and stand receipts. In the old league the visiting clubs always came out the small end of the horn. The prize money, \$20,000, will be raised by a tax of \$2,500 on each club, \$7,000 to go to the club finishing first in the race and the rest to be divided among the others in proportion. John Ward was elected temporary secretary and Al Johnson retains the position of temporary president. A committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and arrange all the preliminaries of the permanent organization.

The Story is a Fake.

DENVER, Nov. 8.—The sensational story telegraphed from Toronto about a dozen girls being decoyed to Denver under the impression that they were coming to secure positions, and then being taken to a lumber camp and debauched and held prisoners for several weeks, is without the slightest foundation. There is no lumber camp within several days' drive of the city, and no such outrage has ever been committed in the state.

Federation of the Colonies.

MELBOURNE, Nov. 8.—The premier of Victoria has consulted with the governments of the other Australian colonies with reference to the question of federation. The replies received, concurred in the opinion that the existing federal council had sufficient power to decide upon a basis of federation, and that no special convention to consider the subject is necessary.

Believe This or Not.

PARIS, Nov. 8.—Madame Armandson Rosignol today signed a contract with M. Strakosch, at Montrem, Switzerland, for fifty representations in America. She will receive 2,500,000 francs, and Strakosch will pay all the traveling expenses of a suite of eight persons.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is purely a vegetable preparation, being free from injurious ingredients. It is peculiar in its curative power.

Unsurpassed in the World.

The vestibuled trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, running daily between St. Paul and Minneapolis and Milwaukee and Chicago, are the perfection of modern railway equipment, and

are unsurpassed in the world. They consist of elegant day coaches, Pullman's latest and best sleeping cars and the finest dining cars in the country. These trains are lighted by electricity and heated by steam, and afford to the traveler every comfort and convenience to be had at the very best hotels. All classes of tickets are honored on these trains and the rates are no higher than by other lines. It is for this reason that discriminating travelers patronize this company and insist that their tickets read over its line, as they naturally want the best service for their money.

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The monthly Four Dollar Drawing will be held

—IN THE—

City of Mexico, Nov. 10, 1889.

CAPITAL PRIZE, \$60,000!

80,000 Tickets at \$4, \$320,000.

2,270 Prizes, Amounting to \$178,560.

Price of Tickets, American Money.

Wholes, \$1; Halves, \$2; Quarters, \$1.

LIST OF PRIZES:

1 Capital Prize of \$60,000 is	\$60,000
1 Capital Prize of 20,000 is	20,000
1 Capital Prize of 10,000 is	10,000
1 Grand Prize of 2,000 is	2,000
2 Prizes of 1,000 are	2,000
6 Prizes of 500 are	3,000
20 Prizes of 200 are	4,000
100 Prizes of 100 are	10,000
300 Prizes of 50 are	15,000
504 Prizes of 20 are	10,080

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

150 Prizes of \$50, approximation to \$60,000	Price \$ 9,000
150 Prizes of \$50, approximation to \$30,000	Price 7,500
150 Prizes of \$50, approximation to \$10,000	Price 6,000
709 Terminals of \$20, decided by \$60,000	Price 15,000

2270 All prizes sold in the United States full paid in United States Currency.

SPECIAL FEATURES:

By terms of contract the company must deposit the sum of all prizes included in the scheme before selling a single ticket, and receive the following official permit:

CERTIFICATE.—I hereby certify that the London Bank of Mexico and South America has on special deposit the necessary funds to guarantee the payment of all prizes drawn by the Loteria de la Beneficencia Publica.

Further, the company is required to distribute fifty-six per cent of the value of all the tickets in prizes, a larger proportion than is given by any other lottery.

All drawings under the personal supervision and management of Dr. Ramon Rodriguez Rivera, Interventor appointed by the government.

List of prizes will be sent immediately after the drawing to all correspondents, or on application. Prizes may be deposited for collection with any Bank or Express company, or sent through them or by mail (as directed to this office).

For full particulars address U. BASSETT, Apartado 736, City of Mexico, Mexico.

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Ladies' and Children's Underwear.

Children's White Merino	25c
Ladies' Wool Ribbed	60c
Ladies' Medicated Scarlet	\$1.00
Ladies' Saxony Wool	1.00
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Ladies' Wool Hose	25c
Ladies' Wool Hose (better)	35c
Ladies' Wool Hose	40c
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